

DOLL TALK

FOR
COLLECTORS

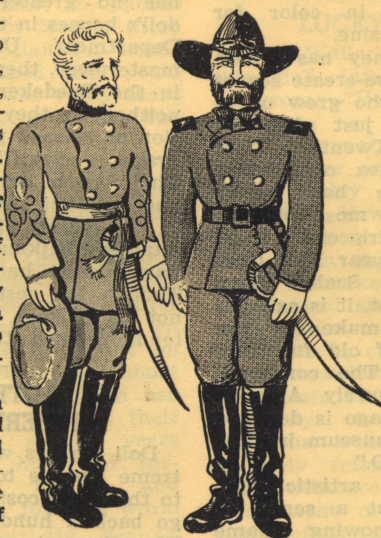
Volume 14, Number 1

July - August, 1961

AS AT APPOMATTOX

In this Centennial Year, commemorating, (certainly not celebrating) our War Between the States, we offer this pair of portrait dolls. A hundred years later we children of children of those unswerving lads who formed the ranks, both blue and gray, sometimes still harbor in our hearts a favorite side. Idealizing Lee, Virginia gentleman, or proudly appreciating the genius of Grant, history becomes softened by legend to form a misty back-drop for our stark problems of Today.

Dolls, always in the gentle, genteel realm, are sketched here side by side—formed of the same compound of powdered stone.



Heads, hands and feet are molded, then oil painted, for about the last ten years by Bessie Sellers, an earnest, but venturesome person. She has worked out many special

portrait heads, men and women significant in history, but the Lincolns and Washingtons, then this pair of American Generals, rank easily top favorites. Of course they do not have the quality of a fifty or a hundred dollar doll, but for their size, about 10½" (shelf height) effective handling of materials—boots to brass—they are impressive, well made, inexpensive. Both have good pedigree pages. That extra service of information which Kimport gives with all

KIMPORT TO THE WEST COAST IN AUGUST

Yes, Kim and Barbara McKim will once again conduct a series of exhibits in California this August with hundreds of exotic foreign and rare antique dolls, all available for your viewing, selection and purchase if you wish.

Wichita, Kan., Holiday Inn Motel, 7411 E. Kellogg, July 29, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Long Beach, Calif., Beach Motel, 4217 E. Ocean, Aug. 10-11, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Hollywood, Calif., Riviera Motel, 6757 Sunset, Aug. 13-14, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
San Francisco, Calif., Hotel St. Francis, Aug. 18-19, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

All four McKims—Jr. and Sr.—will be in San Francisco — see you soon.

stock dolls.

White haired, handsome Robert E. Lee is No. 173L, \$10.00.

Ulysses S. Grant, determined General of the United States Army. No. 173G, \$10.00.

'ON YOUR TOURIST TREK?

Mabel Gurney, like many a D.T. subscriber, sent in a change of address. In fact, Mrs. G. has sent in several such changes as she has long cherished a sharing angle to her collection, with hope of a paying slant, too.

Feature writer, Reva Robb, of the Denver Post, wrote the following, illustrated in color for their Sunday magazine.

"Mrs. Mabel Gurney has drawn on her memory to re-create scenes familiar to those who grew up in the wonderful era just after the beginning of the Twentieth Century, when the idea of modern home conveniences had barely started. One of the most intricate exhibits is an entire eight room house of 1915, the year Mrs. Gurney was married. Scaled down to one inch to a foot, it is as complete as she can make it, even to the attic full of old furniture and knickknacks. The comfortable, homespun, leisurely America of two generations ago is depicted in miniature in a museum in Custer State Park, S.D."

This ingenious, artistic doll friend also got out a series of color postcards, showing "Game Lodge Doll House", miniature rooms, gay 90's period and a wonderful wee Country Store!

'Looks to us like "yo' all" should certainly call by if in the neighborhood of Custer State Park, up in the Black Hills.

A CHARMING DISTINCTION

We have no quarrel with the world's art masterpieces, but we always respond to an appreciative word on anything pertaining

to dolls or their accessories. Gertrude Mahoney, Illinois, is an authority on miniatures and doll houses, so her quotation from "Poppenhuizen," the catalogue, printed in both Dutch and English, of a famous European museum, is especially apropos.

"Judging from the number of visitors, Rembrandt's Nightwatch has no greater rivals than the doll's houses in the Decorative Arts Department. Unlike the famous masterpiece, they are not indicated in the Baedeker with three stars, neither do they attract a procession of learned people, nor do they draw scientific controversies. Their charm lies in the diminutive, and for that reason each of them is an 'enfant cheri' of the large, imposing Rijkmuseum. Tiny things have always had a special charm. Though the aesthetical value may not be perfect, the small in size tends to melt the heart."

AUTHENTIC "HABERDASHERY"

Doll makers will often go to extreme lengths to give authenticity to their doll costumes, but few can go back a hundred years to Civil War times to get their material. Mrs. William P. Webster of Mississippi did just that.

"Last week the Curator of our local Museum asked me to make a Confederate doll cap for a display. The material was sure 'nuf Confederate gray from a uniform cut in Virginia during the Civil War. I enjoyed making the cap and it makes the antique soldier have a real military air about him. Thank you again for the key to a new world of delight!"

THE BOOKS SAY—

We McKims of **Kimport** have been avid readers for generations, starting in at pre-primer age and persuing the habit to old age; Grandmother Short was an active librarian up past her mid-seventies! From the numerous books which we enjoy there are quite often little nuggets of information about dolls; in Thornton Wilder's **Ides of March**, there is an ancient Egyptian doll house so minutely described that you'd believe the writer was verily there when this gift to a queen was presented!

A cherished gift book, **Made in Iceland**, came to us at its recent publication, from its author, Grace Blaisdell Golden. Mrs. Golden has been a director of the eminently successful Indianapolis Children's Museum, for more than thirty years and is a top authority on Folk Arts. I'd love to go off on one of those tangents again about the way this helpful museum has brought traveling exhibits to their area schools; for several years **Kimport** had the honor of furnishing authentic foreign and some portrait dolls for this work.

Misunderstood, strictly Scandinavian, little Iceland held our special appeal to Grace Golden because of its folk arts being on an entirely **national** scale, no regional variations, and that is unique. In Luella Hart's **Dolls Tell the Story of Brittany**, for instance, sixteen different story pages and full page illustrations describe the differences of coif and scarf and apron as proudly traditional of each village. And the "doll quote" that most im-

pressed me concerned those ever present aprons, aprons worn over even the most elegant or frivolous of holiday garb, as well as useful looking ones. Mrs. Golden says:—"Aprons have been a symbol of women's work, and to omit them from any national costume is to admit woman's inadequacy to stand beside men."

LUCKY TWELVE

Opal Wallace of Texas shares this doll information with our collectors:—"Here's a bit of information on celluloid dolls (see '56-57 Manual, Merrill doll, P. 58). I have one like it. 'In 1880, John Wesley Hyatt of Celluloid Mfg. Co., Newark, N.J., granted W. B. Carpenter rights to use patents for a celluloid doll. Typical head unmarked is French type swivel head and wig. Twelve dolls were made—too expensive—quit—gave dolls to customers.' See **Freeman's American Dolls**, P. 36 and P. 77 plate VI."

Luckily, we can still supply **American Dolls** by Freeman. It's a ready reference book of 100 pages with scores of doll pictures and patent drawings. Has pertinent information about dolls of late 19th and early 20th centuries. Price, \$3.15 postpaid.

The '56-57 **Doll Collectors' Manual** prepared and published by The Doll Collectors of America, Inc., is in limited supply but we do have a few copies still available. It has 102 pages of capsule information ranging the entire field of dolls, antique and modern, wooden dolls, trademarks, waxes, old paper dolls and much more. Price, \$4.15.

LATE ARRIVALS

It's always most gratifying to have found and to have got delivery on one or two completely new dolls for Late Arrivals. This time it is first, a well nigh irresistible Formosan child, from the brave capital city of Taipan. An



8 inch doll, but a bit over 9 inches including the black wooden disc base and precious big hat. That

and her basket are intricately woven, and so is that wide shouldered rain cape. It is of something like palm fiber, while basket and hat are of fine smooth reeds. Hand painted mask face may be silk; silky fiber hair extends into two braids under her cape; suit is made from bright print cotton. Admirers of good foreign dolls would gladly pay more, but luckily, No. 409 is only, \$6.00.



The others never offered you before are seriously sweet Italian made church folk, tonsured "Frate Dominicano" and "Suora Carita" of the Order of St. Vincent. Six inch dolls, their bodies are made of the same latex-like material as that popular Vatican Guard, No. 757, introduced last January, price \$3.95.

Lovely, plump cheeked faces, hand painted, with big brown eyes, are of a different flesh-like composition; hands have separate fingers, in fact in all details, these are high grade, collection dolls. Little Brother Dominican, No. 781,

\$3.95; Pretty Sister of St. Vincent No. 781A, \$3.95.

Other imports of which we were truly proud were those vegetable ivory headed Ecuadorians shown in last Christmas issue — Perfect! And on another page, but from the same country, were offered extravagantly decorated little Bread creations, No. 376 at \$1.50 each. You devoured all of these like they had been truly edible—invoice is in on a hundred more which will leave some, after filling back-orders. Also a few more of the real dolls, he No. 375 and she, 375A, at \$8.25 and \$8.75. respectively.

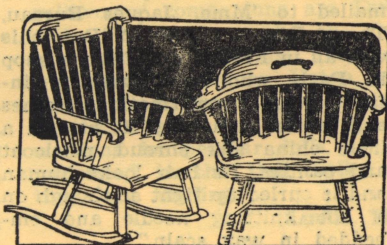


Old line too, is Swiss "Anelli" from canton Appenzell, who stood in for a "picture takin'" with that new doll chair of which we are so proud. Smart, 10 inch Anelli—here

she gets to show off that high winged lace headdress with the multiplicity of other rich details of dress! Basic material of the doll looks like dull finish, very heavy celluloid; eyes are blue as Swiss skies, fingernails modernly lacquered! No. 1054, \$8.75.

"And lastly" welcome words from many a speaker—Ol' rocking chair! Why take space here to remind you how President Kennedy and his lady doctor have so spotlighted an old slow rocker, that an entire industry has been revitalized! Dolls do seize spotlights you know, so when an energetic young couple of craft workers sent us the most beautifully made samples, we capitulated in favor of this comb back beauty, for dolls. Eight inches high, seat about three inches up and three by three between the arms. Those delicate back and arm spindles go clear through the seat, as an example of what fine furniture this is. Unfinished, just creamy tint natural wood that could be stained, waxed, painted or left as is. A bonus foot stool comes, post-paid, with each rocker, No. 37D, \$3.75.

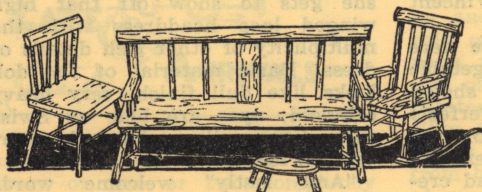
Kimport is not discarding their Ozark lines; they are a trifle smaller, correct for 8 or 9 inch dolls, come maple stained "from our living room workshop." where. we



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✓

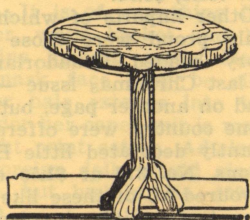
ING 75



add, "the helper may drop a bit of glue or get the stain a mite darkish." Well worth the money though, as designs are authentic early American and construction sturdy. Four piece set, rocker, straight chair, settle and cricket, No. 36X, \$3.75. Three inch high piecrust table, with any other order, No. 36P, 75c. Then their three special chairs with nice detail are, No. 36B, Boston Rocker, \$1.65; No. 36C, Captains Chair, \$1.65; No. 36S, Spindle Back Windsor Chair, \$1.65.

A WEE SENTIMENTAL WAX

Mrs. George Wilcox shares this story that she heard from a Canadian friend: "Did you ever hear that years ago in France, in the wealthy families, if a baby died before the grandparents saw it, that it was made in effigy in wax and sent to the distant grandparents? I have one that came in a little box like a tiny coffin, lined with lace and a wee pillow. It was mailed to 'Mme. Jaques Bureau, Three Rivers, Quebec.' But this was all in French and from a shop in Paris who specialized in 'infant wears, confirmation clothes and ladies' mourning.' It has on a little china silk shroud, petticoat and panties. Its hair looks human and is curled up tight as though on a hot knitting needle and embedded in wax scalp."



ANOTHER HEIRLOOM WOODEN

Time Magazine when reporting the birth of the Emperor's grandson, mentioned among the many traditional gifts, a papier-mache dog to ward off diseases, a sword swathed in red brocade for protection, and a wooden doll to symbolize the coming of a "Heavenly Child."

ANNOUNCING SAFE ARRIVAL

One of our Kimport friends who buys dolls—and also sells some—was visiting with me about this and that. Seems that we sort of wished folks would answer "sure" or "sorry" and perhaps even drop a line to let us know that dolls arrived safe and sound. So, she sent in this:

"Here is a card I must share concerning a breakable infant that sat up 20 inches, packed one box inside another for his safety. 'Dear Mom, I aryved o.k. Think I wyll like it. Aspeshully when Siz getz here. "Tiny"' All this printed in the most painful up-and-down first-grader's best you ever saw. The dear customer! May her tribe increase!"

SUCH NICE PEOPLE!

Our doll collector friends are always passing along helpful information on doll markings, exhibits, or better ways to keep or display dolls. Mrs. T. R. Bousman of California, called attention to an article in the May **Spinning Wheel** by Helen Bullard on Rag Dolls. She also had a helpful suggestion on doll slides:

"Last year, as program chairman, from the National Gallery in Washington, I obtained the colored slides of these and other antique dolls to show at a meeting of our U.F.D.C. (Pasadena) doll club. So for me it was like greeting old friends again to see them in **Spinning Wheel**.

"Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Bullard made a distinct contribution to the doll world when they made it possible for the doll clubs to see these slides which bring to life the lovely colors of the original water colors. Any group that failed to send for them missed a wonderful experience, or still has one awaiting them!"

Perhaps you will want to write direct to the Index of American Design, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

WORD FROM WALES

Every issue of **Doll Talk** could contain word of supplementary and, yes, deleted dolls to all the wonderful dozens shown in that last catalogue. That was really **Doll Talk** for Sept.-Oct. 1960, double size and all to do with foreigners.

You might be interested in the spirit of a letter from Wales, received prior to Christmas, even

though it currently promised no dolls from one of our favorite dollmakers, Mrs. Joan Lucas. We had been so sure that more of those bright faced "Lewellyn and Gwenyd" would be coming along that into the catalogue they went, even though reserve stock was as low as the beach, not the cliffs of Cardiff.

Joan writes: "There just hasn't been time in my life for the dolls you want made, much as I should like to do them for you." She told of the long, final illness of her father, with mother too, in indifferent health, but ever helpful until her turn to be hospitalized. "Dear Pa used to do such beautiful wood carving and we live surrounded by his work. I suppose no one ever really dies who leaves behind them the work they do with their hands and minds."

So, devoted daughter, Joan Lucas of Porthcawl, for fear of having to break a promise, will not say when—or what, but her delightful folk dolls in antique Celtic garb will come to you again by way of **Kimport**—when and if!

WITH PENNY WOODEN

"DUTCH"

"I own two books (1896) **The Adventures of Two Dutch Dolls**, and **The Golliwogg in War**. The golliwoggs' companions are Dutch dolls. The books make the dolls even more interesting. They are written by Florence Upton and the story in verse by her sister Bertha. I used two of my penny woodens for peddler dolls, as you suggested in the **Doll Talk**, and they are darling."

Luella Hart

GLAD TO REPEAT

Certainly we don't want any collectors not to be acquainted with the **Kimport Doll of the Month Plan**. Hundreds have found it a delightful way to acquire dolls systematically—and to be rewarded for it, too! Gracious, it's so much more intriguing than Chee e of the Month! Even though the Camembert or Edam may have come from the home districts of our French or Dutch beauties!

All this is triggered by a letter from Mrs. Pearl Roberts of Ohio, who writes:—"I read an article in your July-August **Doll Talk** from Dorothy Rippy, Oklahoma, who mentioned enjoying her Doll of the Month dolls. Could you please inform me how I, too, can get these dolls?"

HERE IS THE KIMPORT DOLL OF THE MONTH PLAN

1. You decide about what price doll you will want each month, such as, \$5.00, \$7.50, \$10.00 or more.
2. Check on this questionnaire your preference such as, foreign, state types, historical, and the sizes.
3. Send us your first remittance when you return the questionnaire and at once we will select your first Doll of the Month. Each succeeding month, on the 15th, we will surprise you with your next doll.
4. If the doll sent prices slightly over or under your remittance, we'll adjust on the next transaction.
5. Of course our guarantee to please you on every doll holds good on this service, as well as regular purchases. You can re-

turn dolls for exchange.

6. At the end of the year with your twelfth doll purchased, we'll include a "Lucky 13" doll of equal value, free! If for any reason something unforeseen happens and you are forced to discontinue this service before twelve full months, just let us know when you want the service resumed. If this happens you might be able to double up on some months, but if not, your "Lucky 13" doll will be included when your twelfth doll is sent along.

By being a member of the Doll of the Month Club, you will be assured of receiving new imports the month they arrive—even before the dolls are announced in **Doll Talk**. Prices will not be reduced on any dolls, but each will be a carefully selected value.

AN EXHIBITION WITH DISTINCTIONS

Mrs. William Henderson writes from California: "I have dealt with you about twenty-five years and have many foreign dolls from **Kimport**. Thought you would like to know about our church 'Antique Doll Tea', to which I was really the only contributor; results first, we made \$150.00 in three hours with 250 dolls.

"My husband made an 'easel type' large board which was used as background map. Then I stood each foreign doll, attached with red ribbon for Communist and white for Free World countries and thumb tacked these ribbons to their native lands on the big map; a wonderful way to show old costumes of each country."

REMEMBERED

The following letter from Helen Young is self explanatory. We were sorry when she discontinued making dolls; collectors still ask about Ginger, Alice and her Gay Nineties family. But Mrs. Young was a perfectionist who did create several cleverly original models, only to have the mechanics of their production prove quite insurmountable.

"Idly running through the blue news sheet which came with my **Doll Talk**, I came upon my own name. It is so nice to think that there are those who remember. Your reply to the query about my dolls tells the story. The crazing problem seemed to get worse with my dolls instead of better, and the discouraging thing was that while I never sent you an order which was crazed on shipment, the cracks would appear weeks and sometimes months afterward. I shudder to think of how many customers were disgusted or disappointed. If there were a way to overcome the problem, I think I should return to making a limited number of dolls. The children whom you listed nearly drove me mad, what with the mechanical difficulties of firing such minute things, and then the despair when they fizzled. But I do miss all of you, and the dolls."

PLEASANT SHARING

When a man bites dog—or buys dolls, persistently—that's news. At least the first is a newspaper rule, but we've long known that men have an eye for pretty dolls or for pretty faces. They might be a bit shy about showing interest, but when the banker boss and family are invited over to dinner, or oth-

er guests are hard to entertain, his wife's doll collection can be a life saver—and you might think the man of the house had collected them himself.

Dolls are a natural to take home from a salesman's route or a world cruise. What combines so much color and interest? And the price is right! Let any little girl, or her mother or grandmother, start a collection and the word soon gets around, and the gifts come in. **Kimport** is not jealous because few travel to Siam or Kenya or behind the iron curtain and **Kimport** fills in where the others leave off. And then the choice items, antiques and rare dolls, must be negotiated and are not on gift counters.

Many men have a fine sense of value in dolls, and put their encouragement as well as pocket-book back of the collections of their beloved womenfolk. It's a fine hobby to share and after all, isn't that one of life's main purposes?

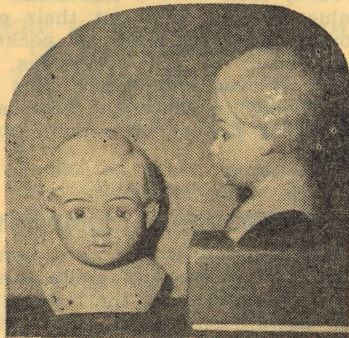
DISTINGUISHED COMPANY

"My Korean ladies were honor guests at Saturday's Delta Kappa Gamma Brunch; they, standing by floral centerpiece, buttressed by national flags, received many compliments. One came to me via **Kimport**; the other doll came directly from Seoul. The speakers were army officers from Pakistan, Vietnam, and Korea—on short notice, I was only ready for Korea, but they seemed adequate for the representation of the three. I'll mend the gaps later."

—Mrs. W. T. Green, Texas

SPEAKING ANTIQUE

Since our Primer lesson this time was on celluloids, we were ever so lucky to have located about three dozen glass eyed heads of that heavy, matt finish old celluloid, a quality worth designating as "mock tortoise." In dingy, disintegrated boxes of six, the tissue around each pretty head simply crumbled to dust at a touch, but each smiling child head emerged as if pleased to be recognized after half a century. Four inches high and 3 inches across the shoulders, he, or could be she, should make a chubby child from 13 to 14 inches overall.



Head, No. A817, \$7.50.

Nineteen inch "Dutchy" is a plump cheeched peasant looking child, ruddy complexioned, bright blue (glass) eyed, and "open-closed" mouth, which always means no actual opening, just modeled with the lips apart. Her pale blond hair is modeled almost as smooth as a cap on her round (12½ inches

around) celluloid head with a braided bun over each ear—cute! Body her owner thought was not original, but it is proper size, fully jointed and sturdy. Bright blue frock, old blue cotton stockings, shiny black slippers, all quite becoming; turtle mark on head. No. A749, \$25.00.

Eighteen inches and extra nice is a boy with such pretty deep blue rounded out eyes, they are like those in many French dolls, but this 5½ inch celluloid head says "Schutz-Marke & No. 13" under a turtle, but not the word "Germany." Deep modeling in his boy style hair; modeled eyebrows, parted lips. Proper celluloid arms and kid body has had some repairs but is in perfect proportion for this pretty youngster. He's dressed—No. A810, \$24.00.

One 12" tall colored boy has a 3½" celluloid head of golden brown complexion. Large black eyes and wavy black hair are painted; open lips, showing teeth, very plump cheeks, pug nose, dimple in chin, he has very shallow shoulders marked only with an unframed tortoise and "Schutz-Marke." Cloth body and arms; cute old cotton print shirt over brown slacks. A813, \$10.00.

After the celluloids, here are more of a selection, variety of good down-to-earth dolls with a \$25.00 price as tops.

Eighteen inch doll, with 4½ inch china head, that is a sharply modeled, really pretty, blond Nelly Bly; pink line above her blue eyes, number 4 and "Germany" on her shoulders. Excellently patterned cloth body and all handmade, removable clothes which would do credit to

a. French bisque! Leg o' Mutton sleeves, and skirt flouncing that scallops into a design, add distinction to her changeable silk. No. A793, \$25.00.

Fifteen inch lovely old china head 3½ inches high; from the same collection, so the body which sits so perfectly, the three piece feet and all are excellent. Jet hair, 1860 high-brow with deep upstanding scallops and center white line. Eyelids are modeled; painting the best, with pink dot nostrils and eyepoints as well as the line above the black lashes line. Head alone is well worth her price. Undressed, No. A797, \$24.00.

The third china is a little name head "Marion," nine inch doll, 2¼ inch head. Ordinary "Godey" hair style, but the bust does have gilt edged collar and name; new muslin body with nice reproduction arms and legs. Undressed, No. A549, \$16.50.

A 15½ inch "Florodora," marked so on her 4 inch shoulder head. Kid body, even kid feet and dimpled bisque arms. Blue glass eyes are set, blond original wig, beautifully made removable clothes, even to a fancy blue satin hat. No. A773, \$17.50.

Two blond bisques with modeled hair—first 8½ inch "Janie" whose smooth white complexion would be called "parian" by some. Nice head 2¼ inches high, old stone-bisque limbs; one deeply ribbed stocking leg is mended. Old clothes could be original—circa 1880. No. A15, \$14.00.

Ten inches tall and of delicate pink bisque. Two and one half inch head with blond hair modeled into puffy bangs across her low forehead. Head is old, limbs new but matching in tint and texture; beautifully

dressed in pale blue and cream. No. A700, \$19.00.

Three babies for a next group—10½ inch A.M. "Dream Baby," head 9 inches around, eyes still asleep; original body with composition baby hands that have split but the sweet closed-mouth head is quite similar to a Bye-Lo. Dressed, No. A748, \$20.00.

A smaller A.M. bisque headed baby is the cutie with open mouth and two lower teeth known as "Kid-die Joy." Only 9 inches long, head 7 inches around, on original body with old celluloid baby hands; dressed. No. A744, \$20.00.

The third infant will delight some collector of babies as it is an American made Mme. Hendron, so marked on both head and body. Sleeping eyes in composition head; celluloid baby hands; voice box still cries. Twelve and a half inches long, head is 10½ inches around. No. A539, \$17.50.

In an accumulation of tiny dolls from England, most were those appealing old peg woodens, and sorry, most of them were missing limbs or something. We hired a capable person to be kind to their queer old joints while properly repairing. So this next antique threesome is 2¼ inch "Girl with a basket," quaintly pretty unretouched head—replacement legs, original old tarlatan and velvet dress. No. A757, \$13.50.

About the same, with dear little head unretouched, only 2 inches high. No. A756, \$5.00.

Three and one-fourth inch has a lovely head with gesso hair-do—blue painted bow and streamers on the back of her interesting hair-do; replacement limbs. No. A762, \$15.00.

Such fun in this ceiling priced list—next three bisque shoulder heads to go on kid, or cloth bodies.

Six inches high, 4½ inches across the shoulder top, such a pleasant expression on this smooth A.M. head; parted lips with enameled bisque teeth molded in; big brown eyes have been set; deep dimple in rounded chin; new auburn wig with a pompadour of curl bangs. Should complete about 23 inches tall. A hair line crook up from one of her plump, V-indented shoulders is not long enough to deter her from being dressed low neck. No A264, \$17.50.

Same size but paler in color with blue eyes which still sleep, her 'feathered' eyebrows are also modeled; most probably a Kestner. Old human hair wig with little girl, shoulder length curls, is definitely auburn, parted lips, all perfect. No. A770, \$18.50.

Three and a half inch sleeping, grey-eyed Heubach-Koppelsdorf; ears rather outstandingly cute—no wig. No. A771, \$6.50.

Three more bisque heads only, but these are socket type to use on jointed composition bodies. Three and a half inch dated 1909 with parted lips showing 4 bisque teeth, set blue eyes. By Simon Halbig we think, but, in addition to SH marking there is that P.B. in a five pointed star; no wig. No. A780, \$8.50.

Really small, 2 inch child head with initials R.B. incised. Set, blue glass eyes would complete 8 to 9 inch size doll. No. A781, \$4.00.

The final three under \$25.00—assorted!

Eight inch papier mache old (German made?) Japanese tot. His

swivel head, shoulders, a tummy section, lower legs and arms of the composition, other parts cloth. Inset oriental eyes, open nostrils but closed mouth, quite big ears and just a little tinsured topknot. Nice wool challis kimono and trousers—all in perfect condition; seemingly about seventy-five years old. No. A312, \$17.50.

Six inch all bisque with modeled on clothes; wire jointed at shoulders and hips this pretty child could also be included in a "Bonnet-doll" group. His white tam-o-shanter is banded with rose line which matches his oldfashioned play suit, cut square necked and ruffled at the knees—but all bisque. No. N18, \$16.00.

A pair of those funny, cheap type penny-woodens dressed Kate Greenaway style. He is 6 inches, she 5¼ and the pair, No. 264D-2, \$12.50.

TO A COLLECTOR'S DOLL

Beloved of childish fantasy,
Endowed with every grace
Possessed by Queen Titania
And all her fairy race!

Yet earthy, too. Companion of
Long winter nights and days—
Gay picnics in the orchard—all
Small girlhood's many plays.

I see you now, retired, aloof
From things of everyday,
Safe lodged within a cabinet! What
Are your reactions, pray?

Do you not miss the lively world
Of childhood, where your part
Was such a large one, and your
throne
A loving girlish heart?

—Harriet E. Gowey, Seattle Wash.

DOLL TALK

Editor, Ruby Short McKim

A magazine in miniature, published for doll enthusiasts. Issued about every eight weeks.

Subscription is \$1.00 for one year.

Address:

KIMPORT DOLLS
Independence, Mo.



DOLL BOOKS AVAILABLE

There is a high premium on doll books that are no longer in print, so it pays to build up your doll library while choice titles are still available. **Kimport** has just revised its book stock list and it carries two full pages of descriptions and prices. It's free if you'd like a copy.

Several books and booklets are not included, but as we still have limited stock and consider them worth your attention we will briefly describe them again.

The Warwick Doll Museum is ensconced in a quaint little Elizabethan house in the historic English town of Warwick. The story of its valuable dolls together with 8 full page photos is printed in a 20 page brochure. It's only 75 cents postpaid.

A Is For Anna Belle. This is the story of Grandmother's doll, delightfully written and beautifully illustrated by Tasha Tudor. Al-

though this is a child's alphabet book, you older collectors may well find yourselves copying some of the Civil War styles. "S is for her slippers to wear at the dance; T for her tippet, the latest from France." Well bound in apple green linen, 7x9, it of course, takes 28 pages in color to cover the alphabet. Price, \$3.15.

Thorne Miniature Rooms. This describes and pictures a series of historic rooms done in architectural models of exact scale with all furniture and fittings, authentic copies of the period. These are on display at the Newark Museum. There are 32 pages and cover 7½ by 10 inches. Price, 75 cents.

The Jumeau Doll Story. In 1957, Mrs. Nina Davies of New Orleans, published this little book which she describes as: "An enchanting guide on the history of the world's most famous doll, the incomparable Jumeau, as told in the inimitable style of a Frenchman who knew Jumeau." The cloth bound book has 80 pages, 5½ by 7 inches, with several full page photos. Price postpaid, \$4.50.

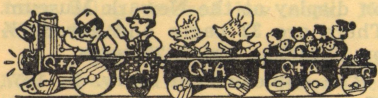
"IT'S FRIENDSHIP!"

Friends are our most cherished possessions, or contacts, or, what mundane word is worthy to couple with "friendship?" There is apt to be quite a consultation here at **Kimport** as to what we might suggest especially for YOU, or which hand-made little foreigner to send, because such dolls do vary like a room full of real folks would.

This time such a train of thought was started by Miss Dollie Merrill's note, who was "too busy working on election" to write much, but

along with her order for one more small doll for that large collection in her own "small house," she was as always, so friendly.

"You see, my mother had a collection of dolls and that is what started me, and many of your descriptions just fit a lot of both hers and mine. I do enjoy **Doll Talk**, and especially love the foreigners; I have almost all nations here, due to seafaring relatives and wars! League of Nations right here, and the best of it is, they don't fight!"



Q. In 1953 I bought penny woodens just like yours at Stratford-on-Avon. Recently, the shop owner wrote me that, at long last, they had secured some more. I ordered and they came stamped "Made in Italy"—so what?

A. Well, of course, that means these current ones were made in Italy. **Kimport** does handle a wonderful wooden Pinocchio who should properly hail from that land of his origin, but these are made in Poland! Salable ideas do get "swiped around," but really the ones in 1961 **D.T.** were exactly as certified concerning their 200-year-old source.

Q. Do You Know—That dates got left out of **Doll Talk's** Primer Page on Bye-Lo's?

A. Well, this is the information: Mrs. Grace Story Putnam first contacted George Borgfeldt in New York, 1920. In two years

time, approved Bye-Lo babies had been worked out—in Germany, ready to offer for sale. U.S. Patent No. 208,558, dated January 24, 1925, seems to be the first officially registered on Mrs. Putnam's "Million Dollar Baby."

And another Primer error was in last January, about those 1860 china heads. It mentioned blue eyes, like popular Queen Victoria's, as favored over brown "two to one." Two hundred to one might still be too few browns, but that was what our original script said.

Q. Was there ever a real authentic "Campbell Kid" doll or do we just call any that look like Grace Drayton's advertising drawings by that name?

A. "The Campbell Kid" was made in U.S.A. of composition (head and hands) and tightly stuffed plump body and limbs, jointed at hips and shoulders. E. I. Horsman patented it in 1910.

Nice that you remembered Grace Drayton who later created the "Dolly Dingle" paper dolls.

Q. Would you know whatever became of authoress Janet Johl's own doll collection?

A. Yes, the late Mrs. Johl's accumulation of some 1200 items, dolls and kindred things, was purchased by Mr. Samuel L. Pryor. They will be added to his already huge collection, yet kept, in a way, separated and identified with Mrs. Johl and her services. Mr. Pryor, Vice-President of Pan-Am Airways, was featured as a World Wide Doll Collector in **National Geographic Magazine**, December, 1959.

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS

"Some folks use a Sears Roebuck catalogue for a 'Wish Book,' but I use **Doll Talk**."

—Teddy Marshall, Tex.

"Have given a sample of **Doll Talk** and your address to two or three doll lovers. Hope you get subscriptions from them."

—Mrs. Anna E. LaRue, N.Y.

"Just a word to tell you how much I enjoy your fast service."

—Geraldine Fettes, Ore.

"My French Fashion is so lovely. She is now in a Fashion Parade at our Library, being part of a Civil War Centennial display."

—Jessie Baillie, Wis.

"I always like the quaint battered faces much better than the touched up ones."

—Mrs. A. W. Casey, Calif.

"The Magge Head dolls arrived this afternoon. What can I say about them, except 'they are out of this world!' I am looking forward to the arrival of the latest addition to our doll family. When I no longer experience that special thrill upon opening a box of newcomers, my collecting days will be over—and that I do not expect to happen for many a day!"

—Mrs. Louise Wiekenheiser, Pa.

"This is a bad time of year for buying extras, but as you know, no doubt, there is a compulsion in collecting anything and few people can withstand it."

—Juanita Schreiner, Wis.

"I do wish to mention this in a letter to you as I hear many times, **'Kimport** is so quick to answer letters and requests.' In my own case, say that I find my stock of doll stands is low, I never bother to find your list, just send an S.O.S. for a dozen, and back they come, pronto, invoice enclosed! Then all I have to do is send a check, which I do, just as promptly."

—Lillian Eauclaire, N.Y.

"The day **Doll Talk** arrives is always 'Drooling Day.' I enjoy it so much and the Primer Page is for my scrapbook. Thanks for the article on the Budget Plan!"

—Mrs. George Winniman, Fla.

"I am glad you did send me the Eskimo doll. It is a fine addition to my collection—of real fur, too. What fine work goes into one of these dolls; the little pamphlet is very interesting, telling all about the dolls, too."

—Marie France, Pa.

"The Irish Leprechaun you sent recently went on display in our college library for St. Patrick's Day."

—Etoile B. Pearce, Ala.

"Noting Mrs. Wahl's comment in the January-February issue, I have two charming Wave and Waac girls (Mme. Alexander, C. W. II). But nothing else of interest since my Lenci 'Amelia Earhart.'"

—Elizabeth Hauserman, Ohio

"Those Period Paper Dolls sound like a perfect addition to my talk on the Art and Cultural Background for American History. This I do for eighth graders."

—Mrs. T. K. Bender, Mich.

DOLL PRIMER: CELLULOID DOLLS HAD THEIR DAY

The doll maker's art has employed all materials from Egyptian clay to Esquimaux ivory and from inexpensive celluloid to priceless Meissen. Our Primer Pages follow them wherever their moods have led.

Celluloid was a fore-runner of modern synthetic plastics, compounded of cotton fiber and certain acids, camphor and alcohol. It was discovered in England in 1855 but an American, Wesley Hyatt, researching for an ivory substitute in 1863, with two other chemists, found a practical manufacturing process and by 1880 The Celluloid Mfg. Co. was formed in Newark, N.J. and began making dolls under two U.S. patent numbers.

Here again, the Germans became dominant. They moved much faster than their trade-mark, the tortoise, and by 1889, under the formidable name "The Rheinische Gummit and Celluloid Fabric Co. of Mannheim-Neckarau, Germany," they were not only selling their own lines, but manufacturing heads for other companies and exporting heavily to the U.S. Their trade-mark was a small turtle or tortoise embossed on the back of the shoulders or neck. Sometimes this was enclosed in a diamond frame or else a box. Frequently the words "Schutz-Marke," meaning "Protected trade-mark" were included, and perhaps a size number. After 1891 any dolls sent into the U.S. also had to include the word "Germany."

Celluloid had certain advantages for dolls: a smooth surface, washable and sanitary; light and durable; takes color well and has the appearance of flesh. As it ages it mellows into a deeper patina. Such old dolls are rare and having an unmistakable charm, are collector class. Many doll molds, created for bisque, were used for celluloid copies, and are found in the widest variety. They are large, small; painted eyes or inset glass; moulded hair or applied wigs; cheap for competition or with a fine quality that even J. D. Kestner bought for his doll lines. Borgfeldt of New York sent special molds to Germany for manufacture of celluloid heads, hence the wide-spread marks of the tortoise.

Every nationality was delineated in celluloid. Some of the loveliest French dolls in our imported lines today are of fine celluloid. Poland, before the war, had developed such beautiful celluloid heads that they were used in many European countries. There were imitations of the Bye-Lo and heads stamped "Juno" though not metal; colored dolls and of course Nipponese!

A side-line of especial American interest was "The Parsons-Jackson Doll." In 1914, Parsons and Jackson, a Celluloid Collar Co., of Cleveland, Ohio, could not abide the waste even of the snips and scraps of celluloid and devised a little doll of their own. The head was fine quality and the body ingeniously held together at all joints by metal springs. A small trade-mark, a stork, was embossed on the back of the heads and between the shoulders. Only a comparative few were sold, as the price was high, and when celluloid collars went out of style, scrap material was no longer available. They are still easy to identify, but hard to come by.

KIMPORT DOLLS, P. O. BOX 495
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